

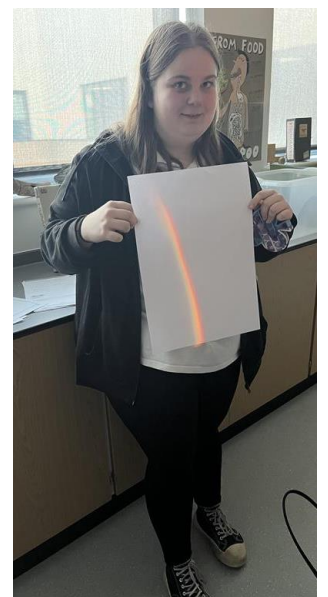
# The Valley Newsletter

## 19th January 2024

This week has shown how quickly we can get used to change, and how well our school community have adapted to our new environment. New routines are starting to fall into place, taxi time and lunch routines are becoming slick, and everyone is enjoying the opportunities the new facilities are affording us. We have even successfully conducted our first fire drill despite below zero temperatures.

### Year 10 Science

This week the Year 10 have been experimenting with different light sources. They have learnt that white light is made up of lots of different colours; the colours of the rainbow. They have also used refraction glasses which separate the light sources around us.



### School Dinners

Please remember to pre-book your child's school meal before 8am. You can order meals up to 10 weeks in advance to save you time doing this each morning.

If your child attends college on Thursday, we are not able to offer them a hot lunch due to the time they leave. We are able to provide them with a school packed lunch to eat before they go, but this must be pre-booked on School Gateway.



### Visit from Cllr Richard Roberts, Leader of Hertfordshire County Council

Cllr Richard Roberts, Leader of Hertfordshire County Council, was given a tour of the new classrooms and enhanced outdoor provision on Wednesday 17 January by students at the school.

He said: "It was fantastic to be shown round by the pupils, hearing how much they are enjoying the school's new spaces, and to see them benefitting from our investment."



### The Witches at the National Theatre - Wednesday 24 January

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> the Performing Arts students are taking a trip to London to watch The Witches.

The plan for the day is as follows:

Lesson 1 as normal

Students to meet in the Drama Studio at the start of Lesson 2

Minibuses and car to Stevenage Train Station

Train 10.47 from Stevenage to London Blackfriars (11.23)

Walk from London Blackfriars along the Thames to the National Theatre (20 minutes approximately, however with sightseeing this may be longer)

12.00 arrive at the National Theatre

Have lunch in the foyer

1.00 show

Running time 2 hours 30 minutes (including a 20 minute interval)

Finish 3.30



Walk back to London Blackfriars.

Train home (16.22 - 16.58)

Students to be collected from the Leisure Park car park, as per the pantomime, at 5.00pm

If your child is attending the trip and you have any questions, please contact the school office.

### **Congratulations to Miami**

Congratulations to Miami who has been awarded a scholarship to attend Jigsaw Arts in Stevenage on a Saturday. She will be following a programme of dance, drama and singing and we can't wait to hear all about it! Well done Miami.

### **Year 8 Science**

Year 8 Lime have been learning about solids, liquids and gases in Science. They did an experiment where they turned water into ice cubes and then blew air (gas) into straws to create bubbles.





## Year 9 Science

Teal class are studying the unit CSI in Science and on Wednesday the students dressed as scientists and examined a crime scene. They discussed what takes place during the examination of a crime scene, how and by whom.



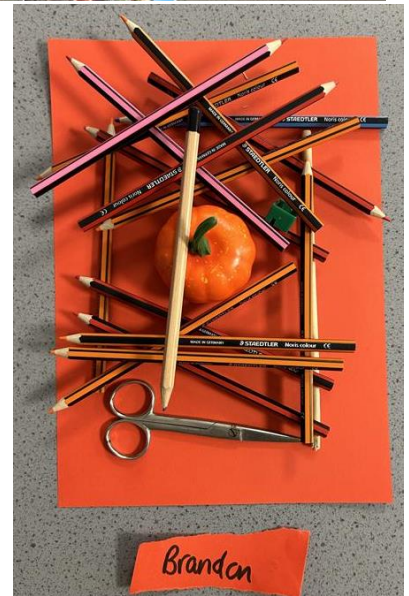
## Year 9 Art

Year 9 are studying Surrealism in Art with Miss Flynn. On Wednesday they created their own surreal compositions which were photographed and will be sketched next week. The students had to combine items that wouldn't necessarily be put together and in a way that is not considered normal. They had to name their Art and write an analysis of the meaning behind it, the students were all absolutely fantastic and were really creative.



## Art Club

Art Club started up again this week in our wonderful new Art Room. Students were busy making letters with wool, exploring clay, and pursuing their own, self-directed projects. A massive thank you to Miss Duffy and Mr Chamberlin for running the club.



## Hiring Facilities

We are exploring opportunities to let our facilities to create another funding stream for the school.

If you know of any groups or clubs that might be interested, please encourage them to contact the school.

The details regarding prices and availability are listed below.

### Facilities Available and Pricing

#### Hourly Rates

| Area                       | Community Use       | Commercial          | Dimensions     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|
|                            | Out of School Hours | Out of School Hours |                |
| Hall                       | £25                 | £30                 | 12.6m x 9.5m   |
| Sports Hall                | £25                 | £30                 | 18m x 10m      |
| Fitness Studio             | £20.00 p/m (mship)  | £30 per class       | 12.46m x 5.90m |
| Natural turf playing pitch | £25.00 per match    | £30 per match       | 60m x 30m      |

#### Hours of Access

17/05/2025

| Term- Time |           |                |                     |
|------------|-----------|----------------|---------------------|
| Users      | Days      | Times          | Notes               |
| Community  | Mon - Fri | 16:30 to 22:00 | Daylight Permitting |
|            | Saturday  | 08:00 to 22:00 |                     |
|            | Sunday    | 08:00 to 22:00 |                     |
| Holidays   |           |                |                     |
| Users      | Days      | Times          | Notes               |
| Community  | Mon - Fri | 08:00 to 22:00 | Daylight Permitting |
|            | Saturday  | 08:00 to 22:00 |                     |
|            | Sunday    | 08:00 to 22:00 |                     |

*Subject to the School providing appropriate justification to the management committee, the School may restrict the use of grassed sports areas to protect them to fit in with the school requirements.*

### **School Clubs**

These will continue to be on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.  
They will start up again from Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January.

The list of students expected to attend clubs on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday will be sent as a separate email to this newsletter. If your child is on this list then it means that we have received your permission and that arrangements regarding transport home for your child have been agreed with you. If this is not the case you need to contact [admin@thevalley.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@thevalley.herts.sch.uk) so we can address any anomalies well before the evening. Students will not be able to join a club after this list has been published, until the following week, as organising transport and supervision is too complex to do well with very short notice.

Thank you for your support with this.

